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1988/07/29



United States Department of State

Washington, D. C. 20520

Date: 1/27/93

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ACTION MEMORANDUM

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SECRET

TO: The Acting Secretary

THROUGH: P - Mr. Armacost

FROM: EAP - Gaston Sigur

SUBJECT: Congressional Letter on Chinese Missile Sales to Syria

11 29 1988

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether to sign the attached letter.

BACKGROUND

On July 14, 116 Congressman signed a letter to you expressing concern over possible Chinese ballistic missile sales to Syria. The letter urged you to inform China that future US-Chinese technical and military cooperation would be jeopardized unless China's "indiscriminate arms sales policy comes to a halt."

The attached response for your signature to the Congressional letter describes the Chinese reaction to your presentation in Beijing July 14-16 urging the PRC to engage in a serious dialogue on this matter. It states that continuing to build on the constructive discussions you had in Beijing is the most effective way of bringing about PRC recognition of the risks to global stability and US-China relations presented by unrestrained ballistic missile exports.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached letter.

Attachments:

1. Reply to Congressional Letter
2. Congressional Letter

SECRET
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